

Agribusiness Career Pathway

MISSOURI ECONOMIC RESEARCH & INFORMATION CENTER
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
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What are Career Pathways?

Career Pathways are groups of occupations within a career field. Occupations within a pathway share common skills, knowledge, and interests. The pathways use industry-recognized credentials and are examples of how different levels of training or education can help provide opportunities for career advancement.

Missouri Numbers:



2,030 Employers



43,754 Workers



\$44,277 Average Wage

Why Have a Career in Agribusiness?

Agribusiness represents 1.8 percent of total private sector employment in Missouri, employing more than 44,000 workers in over 2,000 businesses in 2019. Employment in Agribusiness has been steadily growing, increasing an average of 1.6 percent per year from 2014 to 2019. Missouri has high employment concentrations in Agribusiness, particularly in Agriculture Chemical Manufacturing, Dairy Product Manufacturing, and Grain and Oilseed Milling. Wages in Agribusiness averaged \$44,277 in 2019, lower than the \$51,139 state average for all industries.

A variety of careers are possible in fields such as Crop and Animal Production, Research and Development, Logging, and Business Operations and Sales.

Know the Basics

Agribusiness is defined as the group of industries dealing with agricultural produce and services required in farming and food production. Soft skills, such as interpersonal skills, professionalism, and dependability, are important in all industries and occupations, including Agribusiness occupations.

Skills needed for Success:

Agribusiness is a rapidly evolving industry. Understanding environmental impact on crops and livestock and keeping up with new research in crop, water, and soil management is important. Safety issues and quality control are also a critical part of this industry, so attention to details and continuous learning are necessary.

Who's Hiring in Missouri?

Tyson Foods Incorporated
MFA Incorporated
Smithfield Foods
Bunge
Land O' Lakes



Crop & Animal Production

Research & Development

Now

Short-Term On-the-Job Training

Slaughterers and Meat Packers

Entry: \$26,550; Average: \$30,240

Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators

Entry: \$29,660; Average: \$38,030

Conveyor Operators and Tenders

Entry: \$27,460; Average: \$32,410

Certificates: Forklift Operator Safety Training

Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, & Samplers, Recordkeeping

Entry: \$28,690; Average: \$36,050

Certificates: American Society for Quality (ASQ), Certified Quality Auditor

Next

Certificate, Associate Degree, Apprenticeship, Moderate- to Long-Term On-the-Job Training

Agricultural Equipment Operators

Entry: \$26,820; Average: \$34,840

Farmers, Ranchers, & Other Agricultural Mgrs.

Entry: \$50,520; Average: \$70,130

Farm Labor Contractors

Entry: N/A; Average: N/A

Degrees: Agricultural Business & Management

Agricultural & Food Science Technicians

Entry: \$34,760; Average: \$47,890

Occupational Health and Safety Technicians

Entry: \$37,790; Average: \$50,490

Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers

Entry: \$34,350; Average: \$45,350

Degrees: Chemistry, Environmental Health

Certificates: American Society for Quality (ASQ), Certified Quality Auditor

Later

Bachelor's Degree or Advanced Degree

Industrial Production Managers

Entry: \$76,440; Average: \$104,990

Agricultural Inspectors

Entry: \$31,500; Average: \$42,810

Degrees: Engineering, Business Administration and Management

Food Scientists and Technologists

Entry: N/A; Average: N/A

Industrial Engineers

Entry: \$68,540; Average: \$87,960

Soil and Plant Scientists

Entry: \$33,970; Average: \$51,150

Degrees: Agriculture, Food Science, Engineering, Horticultural Science

Sources:

Burning Glass Technologies Labor/Insight™ tool

Employment and Training Administration, Competency Model Clearinghouse

2019 Occupational Employment Survey Wage data, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Top employers data is based on 2020 online job ads



DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHER EDUCATION &
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT





Logging

Business Operations & Sales

Now

Short-Term On-the-Job Training

**Laborers & Freight, Stock, &
Material Movers, Hand**
Entry: \$23,870; Average: \$31,360

Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators
Entry: \$27,650; Average: \$35,750

Certificates: Forklift Operator Safety Training

Driver/Sales Workers
Entry: \$19,010; Average: \$28,840

Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks
Entry: \$26,870; Average: \$34,700

Office Clerks, General
Entry: \$22,830; Average: \$32,600

Certificates: Business Operations Certificates

Next

Certificate, Associate Degree, Apprenticeship, Moderate- to Long- Term On-the-Job Training

Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
Entry: \$34,680; Average: \$45,070

Fallers
Entry: \$32,990; Average: \$39,910

Logging Equipment Operators
Entry: \$24,060; Average: \$34,080

Certificates: Commercial Driver's License,
Construction/Heavy Equipment/Earthmoving
Equipment Operation

Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing
Entry: \$39,870; Average: \$65,640

Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks
Entry: \$29,640; Average: \$38,340

Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers
Entry: \$71,110; Average: \$98,730

Degrees: Accounting Technology/Technician,
Logistics, Materials, and Supply Chain
Management
Certificates: QuickBooks

Later

Bachelor's Degree or Advanced Degree

Foresters
Entry: \$41,360; Average: \$50,180

Accountants and Auditors
Entry: \$49,210; Average: \$70,240

Buyers and Purchasing Agents, Farm Products
Entry: \$44,530; Average: \$64,200

Marketing Managers
Entry: \$89,840; Average: \$128,810

Degrees: Forestry, Natural
Resources/Conservation

Degrees: Accounting, Finance, Marketing
Certificates: Certified Professional Public Buyer

Sources:

Burning Glass Technologies Labor/Insight™ tool
Employment and Training Administration, Competency Model Clearinghouse
2019 Occupational Employment Survey Wage data, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
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